

United States Department of AgricultureNatural Resources Conservation Service

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Energy Technology Development Team

Fact Sheet-Energy

Energy Awareness Tool: Irrigation

Description

This web-based tool enables a user to estimate the energy costs associated with pumping water for a variety of irrigation systems. It will also estimate the energy cost-savings if various technologies or practices such as scheduling, flow meters, maintenance, and/or pumping plant evaluations are implemented. IPAT was designed by the Energy Technology Development Team working with a multi-disciplinary team of intra-agency specialists. Other energy estimator tools are also on the website.

Uses

NRCS technical specialists developed this tool so farmers, ranchers, and land managers can estimate the energy costs associated with their current irrigation system and determine how much money might be saved by applying specific changes.

Features

To run the program, you need your zip code, type of irrigation system, the kind and respective cost of energy used, well lift, operating pressure, acreage, and type of crop. The user can also supply their own application rate if they do not want to use a default value. Once the appropriate inputs are provided, the tool gives estimates of the water and energy cost saving that could be obtained from various technologies or conservation practices.

